## Utah Salt Lake City Mission Newsletter April 200



# OICE OF THE INEYARD

"And what is it that ye shall hope for? Behold I say unto you that ye shall have hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of his resurrection, to be raised unto life eternal, and this because of your faith in him according to the promise." Mor. 7:41



### President's Message



President Hinckley, speaking at the recent Priesthood Session of General Conference said "I regret I am so old at a time when life is so exciting" -ever the optimist even in his ninety-seventh year.

It should cause us pause, at times, concerning our own pessimism and discouragement at our comparatively young age.

Life is not meant to be an

amusement park through which we carelessly traipse before death, nor is it a wasteland of a test meant to be cruel to the test takers. Life as we know it is the middle and shortest estate of the three estates of our existence and experience. As to this state, there are just a few rare statements about our Father in Heaven's intent about mortality. "For behold this is my work and my glory - to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man." Moses 1:39. God also made it clear that in this estate, righteous experience is part of the plan. "Know thou, my son, that all these things shall give thee experience, and shall be for thy good." D&C122:7.

These fundamental perceptions about life make all the difference in meeting the challenges we face with faith and happiness. Knowing this, even with all the pressures of the Kingdom on his shoulders, President Hinckley looks with excitement at the challenges ahead. Somehow, meeting the stresses of life appropriately and correctly is more likely when one has the correct expectations about life.

As missionaries, we are certainly not exempt from the challenges and stresses of life. In fact, they are many times more poignant, personal and challenging than at any other time in our lives. However, if we truly understand our Father in Heaven's intentions concerning our life and its purpose, then we can look at life as full of "excitement" regardless of its stresses and challenges. Missions, it seems, are an accelerated profusion of experiences and challenges specifically tailored by a loving Father to our individual needs.

Sister Moeller and I are honored to serve with you as you meet not only your own personal challenges, but those of your investigators who you come to love more than yourselves.

I believe there are some ways we can build personal strength to carry the cross of experience that we have been asked to carry. First, we can and should repent so as not to continue to carry the burden of sin that we need not carry. "....Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Hebrews 12:1

Also, always remember that you are not alone. Your Father in Heaven is always near and will answer your prayers. In your work and challenges as a missionary, whether they be personal or with a companion or investigator, they are meant for your growth and experience to ultimately bring you to eternal life. Also, remember what the great prophet Elisha said to his young friend when they saw that Israel was surrounded by a hostile force. He said "They that be with us are more than they that be with them."

Then the prophet prayed that his young friend might also see and know and his prayer was granted and he saw and was comforted.

We also need our eyes opened to see that as far as the Kingdom of God is concerned "They that be with us are more than they that be with them."

As you know I love the lines from Shakespeare's play "Henry the Fifth". They were given by their leader when a greatly outnumbered force was to go to battle the next day and he wanted them to know their place in history by saying to them: "He that outlives this day, and comes safe

home will stand a tip-toe when this day is named. And gentlemen in England now abed shall count themselves accursed they were not here, and hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks that fought with us upon St. Crispens day.

It is my prayer that we will come safely home spiritually that we will stand tip-toe when this dispensation of time is mentioned and others will be envious of the experiences and opportunities that this mission has provided each of us. Indeed, President Hinckley, "life is so exciting."

President Moeller

### Wester Vendna







ELDER COATNEY





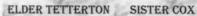
ELDER OSBORN



ELDER R. SMITH



ELDER WILLIAMS





ELDER OSBORN



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SISTER SANTA MARIA

### CERTIFICATIONS

Skilled Teacher Sister Cox **Elder Tetterton** Sister Hume

**Sister Steinmetz** Sister Santa Maria

**Elder Osborn Certified Teacher** 

Sister Cox **Elder Tetterton** Sister Hume **Elder Osborn** Sister Edwards Sister Burkhart Sister Santa Maria

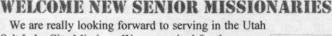
#### ASSISTANTS TO THE PRESIDENT

April is a very significant month for the Christian world. People around the world celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our loving Savior took upon himself the sins of the world and willingly gave himself as a ransom for sin. He rose from the grave to "become the firstfruits of them that slept." 1 Cor 15:20

This significant event is the rhyme and reason for existence. We as Latter-Day Saints are blessed to have increased knowledge of the role of the Savior and His resurrection in the plan of our Heavenly Father. The month of April is also significant because of the organization of the restored church of Jesus Christ on April 6, 1830. The restoration of the priesthood blessings as well as the atonement and resurrection of the Lord is the reason He sends missionaries throughout the world. These two events help us realize who we really are as children of God and our divine potential. These events also provide motivation to spread the news of the Gospel to our brothers and sisters here in Salt Lake. When we truly have a deep testimony of these things, we become as the sons of Mosiah, "Now they were desirous that salvation should be declared to every creature, for they could not bear that any human soul should perish; yea, even the very thoughts that any soul should endure endless torment did cause them to quake and tremble." Mos 28:3

Our prayer is that we may each wear out our lives in bearing testimony of the Lord and His restored church. We love you and pray for you daily.

ELDER PROBST ELDER ORR ELDER CARTER ELDER JOHN



Salt Lake City Mission. We are excited for the opportunity to serve together. Elder Zundel was born in Plymouth, Box Elder County, and moved to Salt Lake at an early age and grew up here. Sister Zundel was born in Emery, Emery County, and came to Salt Lake after high school to work. We met on a blind date and were married in the Salt Lake Temple. We

celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in Elder & Sister Zundel August, 2006. Previously, Sister Zundel enjoyed country life, especially horseback riding. Elder Zundel graduated from the University of Utah and spent 2 years in Germany in the army.

We have 3 children and 15 grandchildren. Two of our grandsons have served missions, and so we appreciate how important it is that we do all we can to enhance the mission experience of the elders and sisters in this mission.

Elder & Sister Bray have set a high standard for us in this new capacity and we will always be grateful for what they have taught us, and we wish them well as they also move on to new and different (HOUSING COORDINATORS) things.



"Great events which shaped the destiny of the church have occurred in this Tabernacle at Temple Square"

President Packer April General Conference

### Welcome New Missionaries

#### INCOMING APRIL 11, 2007



Elder McNamara Silver Spring, Maryland



Elder Talapa Laie, Hawaii



Elder Whalen Kadena AB, Japan



Elder Zeck Duncan BC, Canada



Elder Bowman Missouri City, Texas



Elder Fairchild Santa Clara, California

### **Happy Birthday**

15 Apr	Elder Sawyer	14 May	Elder Strong*	
25 Apr	Elder Baker	16 May	Elder Ellis	
25 Apr	Elder Valikoula	16 May	Elder Noel	
26 Apr	Elder Rigg	17 May	Elder Taylor	
30 Apr	Elder Christensen	19 May	Elder Harbaugh	
30 Apr	Sister Diaz	20 May	Elder Perez	
02 May	Elder Tetterton	21 May	Elder Kennington	
04 May	Elder S.Thompson	25 May	Sister Burkhart	
05 May	Elder Davis	*Senior Missionary		

### Departing Missionaries



Elder James E. Tetterton 6942 Old Creek Terrace Chesterfield, VA 23832 (804) 276-7641 jtetterton76@gmail.com Elders and Sisters of the Utah Salt Lake City Mission: This mission is the BEST in the World! It has been the great-

est single opportunity that has come in my life and I have enjoyed every minute of it. Even through the hard times, I have felt that this mis-

sion was the one for me. The opportunities that we as missionaries have to see our fellow Brothers and Sisters hear the Gospel, accept it, overcome the adversary, and receive the blessings from baptism are some of the greatest events I have seen. These experiences have only strengthened my testimony that this is Christ's Church and work. The mission has opened my eyes to weaknesses as well as strengths. I have been able to learn many things from my companions and I hope that you have been able to learn from me as well. Elders and Sisters, I love you and respect you and I leave you my testimony that this is the work of the Almighty and He directs us through a prophet today! He has called His church out of the wilderness and it is growing! Christ knows all things and is able to help us overcome all things because He died for us! Joseph is the Prophet of this last dispensation, President Hinckley is our Prophet today! Finally, THE BOOK OF MORMON IS THE WORD OF GOD! Don't treat it Love ya, Elder James E. Tetterton lightly.

### Departing Missionaries Continued.



Elder Jonathan Banta 6974 Glacier Drive Springfield, OR 97478 (541) 988-4388 JWBanta@gmail.com

Two years already? Time really does fly by. It has been great, I've learned so much on my mission. I have loved my companions (you know who you are) and have learned a lot from them. As I look back, I remember a lot of things such as hub caps, car crashes, baptisms, twisted ankles, bike rides, frosted flakes, jesus sandals, zone activities and many other things as well. I can't believe it's all over. Soon it's just another trans-

fer but this one is going to last the rest of my life. I wish you all the best of luck in the mission and in life. I'll never forget the people we have taught and the things we have done. This is Jesus Christ's church; He is our Savior and Joseph is His prophet. God has spoken and will continue to speak

to His prophet today, even Gordon B. Hinckley. I know this to be true with all of my heart. "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you." Keep up the good work and don't ever give up!!! Keep in touch.

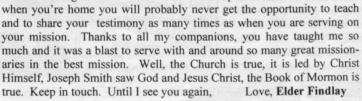
Love, Elder Jonathan W. Banta

#### It just doesn't seem

Right that it is my turn to go home. I can truly say that serving a mission has been the best decision that I have made in my life. There is nothing like

Elder Samuel Findlay 16301 Lookout Lane Bow, Washington 98232 (360) 766-7029 fin decal@hotmail.com

teaching the gospel to people that have lost their way and are looking to come unto Christ. Live it up because



Well, the mission wasn't easy, but it definitely was worth it. I have had the best experiences of my life. I have felt the prompting of the spirit, I've laughed, I've cried, I've felt frustrated, and I've had the "best" and "worse" days in my life. I've loved those whom I taught with that love of Christ that I didn't know I had for other of God's children that I had just met.

Now that my mission is over, I can identify with Paul when he said "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

God lives, Jesus is His Son, our Redeemer; He died for our sins on the cross, He is our Savior and we are going to see Him one day and live with Him again. That is my goal and I know it will happen as I'm faithful throughout my life. Joseph Smith was His prophet and through him Christ restored His church upon this earth. You are His servants at this time. Be faithful until the end.





Sister Santa Maria

Sister Janeth Alexandra Santa Maria Jr. Oscar Barrenechea #583 S.M.P. Lima, Peru 032 5-567-5063 alexa\_smr@hotmail.com



Elder Fisilau Nehasi Valikoula PO Box 60, Liahona Nuku'alofa TONGA (676) 57-104 (cell) tamasii4tonga@gmail.com

Learn from yesterday, live for today, dream for tomorrow. It has been a pleasure to serve our Lord, and also a blessing for me to serve

here in the headquarters of the church. I felt as when Peter said unto Jesus.. "Lo we have left all, and have

followed thee..." We do leave all the things that we love to come and follow our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us do what's right, prepare properly, serve willingly, live honorably, pray earnestly, and as we do these things, blessings will flow like crazy. My life has been blessed since the beginning of my mission. I have gained a great knowledge of the gospel and I have also gained so much weight during these past 25 months, just from jello and lasagna, etc...

It's been great serving with you Elders and Sisters. The sun is almost set for me, but I'll remember each and everyone of you, from your examples and the loving kindness that you've shown me. To my mission parents, President and Sister Moeller and all the office staff, thank you for always being there in time of need. Keep up those smiling faces. Thou shalt remember to laugh occasionally, God loves a cheerful countenance. I leave you my testimony: 'oku ou 'ilo 'oku mo'ui'a e 'Otua ko 'etau Tamai Hevani, ko Sisu koe Kalaisi, Siosefa Samita koe palofita ia 'a e 'Otua, Gordon B. Hinckley koe palofita ia 'I he 'ahoni... 'Ai mo tuku hono tuki e fakafofonga'a e 'EikiTutau...ta toe feiloa'i 'iKanata...'Ofa atu an Mahal Love, Elder Valikoula Kita....

I have been so blessed to be able to serve a mission; I have learned many important things about what life is really about. I have gotten to

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know many amazing people, my investigators, leaders, members and especially you missionaries. There is no

shadow of a doubt in my mind that this church is true. I have come to know and feel the love of our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ; they loved me so much that they allowed me to be a missionary. One of my favorite scriptures about missionary work that has really helped me is in Alma 26:30 "And we have suffered all manner of afflictions, and all this, that perhaps we might be the means of saving some soul; and we supposed that our joy would be full if perhaps we could be the means of saving some." I can truly say that I worked hard among my brothers, I wasn't perfect, but I definitely felt the joy of bringing souls unto Christ. Thank you President and Sister Moeller, the office staff, and all of you missionaries for your love and support; you made my mission an awesome experience. Si pueden leer estas palabras eso significa que son los mejores misioneros. Les quiero a todos, son mis amigos fieles y espero verles dondequiera que vivan, sea aqui, o en sus, paises voy a ir. Sigan adelante, no les quiero ver llorar, bauticen sesenta. The true gospel of Jesus Christ has been restored through the prophet Joseph Smith; we are missionaries of that church and it is the greatest thing ever. Love, Elder Jordan Cutts

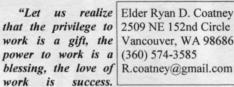
Elder Joseph Thomas Allman 7019 Wikle Road West Brentwood, TN 37027 (615) 370-4234 tlallman@comcast.net



#### **April General Conference**

"In modern revelation the Lord has said: "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord....You cannot live in the world and partake of the ways of the world. You must be above all of that."

> President Hinckley



"Let us realize Elder Ryan D. Coatney

Genius undoubtedly is little more than the capacity for hard, sustained work."

David. O. McKay

I am so grateful to my God for the opportunity I have received to serve around so many wonderful Elders and Sisters who have taught me this truth as a missionary. There is a time for everything (Eccl. 3:1) and the happiest and wisest missionaries are the missionaries who give their all to this work in the season for it. There is no greater nor compelling work than the one which I have been privileged to focus upon solely for these past two years. I have been blessed beyond my capacity for reason as I have given my all to this work.

Remember that time will always continue its same relentless pace and take comfort in that fact. As you work your heart out, the Lord will help you make each day better than the one before and will give you the eyes to see the good in all people and situations.

This is truly the day of the Harvest for the fullness of the gospel has been once again restored to the earth through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Our greatest tools in this work are the promptings of the Holy Ghost, the Book of Mormon and "Preach My Gospel". All these faithfully testify of Jesus Christ as my own personal Savior and Redeemer. I know of myself through the power of the Holy Spirit that He did perform His vicarious and infinite atonement on behalf of all mankind. That we may grow continually stronger in our love of Christ and in the constant application of His mighty truths is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Love, Elder Coatney

### parting Senior Missionaries

Elder & Sister Alan Bray 3650 So. 6580 West West Valley City, UT. 84128 Phone: (801) 250-7284

The time has come for us to say "farewell" to all of you faithful Elders and Sisters. We now know how hard it is to see

the end to something you love so much. This has been the most rewarding and fun assignment that we have ever experienced. We have learned to love all of you. We wish you well as you continue to serve the Lord in bringing souls into the Gospel. We are sad to leave but know that someone else needs to have this marvelous opportunity to serve. We hope you will welcome Elder and Sister Zundel as they adjust and learn their responsibilities.

It has been an honor to serve with President and Sister Moeller. Thank you for your kindness and example of Christlike attributes. We have had so much fun with the Nortons, the Pollocks, and the Baxters. We have shared a lot of experiences with them this past 20 months. They are good, kind people and we will miss our daily association.

Please let us know when important events happen in your lives. (School, weddings, babies, etc.) It will just make our day to hear from you. We love you so much and will miss your beautiful smiling faces. Love, Elder & Sister Bray